

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 1999

SENATE BILL

No. 566

Introduced by Senator Escutia

February 19, 1999

An act to ~~add Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 124950)~~ to ~~Part 4 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety~~ amend ~~Section 12693.29 of,~~ and to add Section 12693.265 to, the ~~Insurance Code,~~ and to add Section 14087.306 to the ~~Welfare and Institutions Code,~~ relating to school health programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 566, as amended, Escutia. School health programs.

Existing law provides for the Healthy Families Program, administered by the Major Risk Medical Insurance Board, in order to arrange for health care coverage for low-income children.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, administered by the State Department of Health Services, under which qualified low-income persons are provided with health care services.

This bill would require, as a condition of contracting under these programs, that health plans contracting under the Healthy Families Program and managed care plans contracting under the Medi-Cal program negotiate contracts with school-based health care programs in their geographic area that provide primary medical care.

~~Existing law includes various programs to provide primary health care services to the people of California. Existing law also provides health care services and health coverage to~~

families and children meeting specified requirements, through the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families programs.

This bill would declare legislative intent to enact legislation that will enable school districts to develop partnerships with public or private health care organizations to ensure that students receive preventative and primary medical treatment in a timely and efficient manner, including by supporting school programs in increasing the number of eligible schoolage children enrolled in the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families programs, and by requiring the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families managed care programs to include within their provider networks those school health programs that provide primary medical care.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Chapter 8 (commencing with Section~~
2 ~~124950) is added to Part 4 of Division 106 of the Health~~
3 ~~and Safety Code, to read:~~

4

5 ~~CHAPTER 8. SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS~~

6

7 ~~124950. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
8 ~~legislation that will enable school districts to develop~~
9 ~~partnerships with public or private health care~~
10 ~~organizations to ensure that students receive~~
11 ~~preventative and primary medical treatment in a timely~~
12 ~~and efficient manner. It is the intent of the Legislature~~
13 ~~that this legislation do all of the following:~~

14 ~~(a) Provide support for school programs to increase~~
15 ~~the number of eligible schoolage children enrolled in the~~
16 ~~Medi-Cal program (Chapter 7 (commencing with~~
17 ~~Section 14000) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and~~
18 ~~Institutions Code), and the Healthy Families Program~~
19 ~~(Part 6.2 (commencing with Section 12693) of Division 2~~
20 ~~of the Insurance Code).~~

21 ~~(b) Expand health resources available to students in~~
22 ~~schools.~~

~~(e) Require the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families managed care programs to include within their provider networks those school health programs that provide primary medical care. These school health programs shall be included in a manner, and upon terms and conditions, that are no less favorable than those that are extended to any other network primary care provider of pediatric and adolescent ambulatory care. The State Department of Health Services shall facilitate the integration of school health programs into these networks.~~

~~(d) Require Medi-Cal and Healthy Families managed care organizations to provide documentation of the efforts made to include school health programs as network providers.~~

SECTION 1. Section 12693.265 is added to the Insurance Code, immediately after Section 12693.26, to read:

12693.265. (a) The executive director of the board shall require that, as a condition of contracting with the Healthy Families Program, or of renewing an existing contract, a participating health plan negotiate amendment contracts with the school-based health care programs in its geographic area that provide primary medical care.

(b) Under the terms of a contract between a health plan and a school-based program, the plan shall reimburse the school-based health care program for eligible services provided to children enrolled in the participating plan.

(c) The board shall provide technical assistance to support the negotiations between participating health plans and school-based health care programs.

SEC. 2. Section 12693.29 of the Insurance Code is amended to read:

12693.29. (a) The board shall use appropriate and efficient means to notify families of the availability of health coverage from the program.

(b) The State Department of Health Services in conjunction with the board shall conduct a community outreach and education campaign in accordance with

1 Section 14067 of the Welfare and Institutions Code to
2 assist in notifying families of the availability of health
3 coverage for their children. *Twenty percent of the*
4 *moneys allocated for the community outreach and*
5 *education campaign shall be expended for school-based*
6 *outreach programs conducted by schools.*

7 (c) The board shall use appropriate materials, which
8 may include brochures, pamphlets, fliers, posters, and
9 other promotional items, to notify families of the
10 availability of coverage through the program.

11 SEC. 3. Section 14087.306 is added to the Welfare and
12 Institutions Code, to read:

13 14087.306. (a) *The director shall require that, as a*
14 *condition of contracting with the department under this*
15 *chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 14200),*
16 *or of renewing an existing contract, a Medi-Cal managed*
17 *care plan negotiate contracts with the school-based*
18 *health care programs in its geographic area that provide*
19 *primary medical care.*

20 (b) *Under the terms of a contract between a Medi-Cal*
21 *managed care plan and a school-based program, the plan*
22 *shall reimburse the school-based health care program for*
23 *eligible services provided to children enrolled in the plan.*

24 (c) *The department shall provide technical assistance*
25 *to support the negotiations between Medi-Cal managed*
26 *care plans and school-based health care programs.*